Attorney Docket No. 06462/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Akifumi HAYASHI et al

Serial No. : 10/586,698

Filed : July 20, 2006

For : ABSORBENT ARTICLE AND

INNER ABSORBENT ARTICLE

Art Unit : 3761

Examiner : HAND, MELANIE JO

Confirm. No.: 7832

This paper is being submitted via EFS-Web on October 20, 2008

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not already paid, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378. In addition. authorization is hereby given to charge any fees for which payment has not been submitted, or to credit any overpayments, to Account No. 06-1378.

RESPONSE - 37 C.F.R. 1.111

MAIL STOP AMENDMENTS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 23, 2008, the term for response to which expires on October 23, 2008.

ELECTION

Applicants hereby elect Species 9, Fig. 12, for further prosecution on the merits, without traverse.

CLAIMS READABLE:

The claims readable on elected Species 9 are claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15 and 21.

It is respectfully submitted that this submission is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Holtz, Esq. Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: October 20, 2008

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